

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:TBLEHA:BDS

APPROVED BY EA:RSINGERSOLL

EA/ROC - MR. SULLIVAN

DOD/ISA - COL. ST. CINE

PM/MC - MR. SIPES

INR/DDC/RPS - MR. CURL

CIA - MR. KEELEY (SUBS)

NSC - MR. RANSOM (SUBS)

S/S - DWMILLER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

S E C R E T STATE 049362

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MILI, BCOM, TW

SUBJECT: ROC INTEREST IN DEFENSIVE ELECTRONICS SYSTEM

REF: TAIPEI 1117, TAIPEI 1122, TAIPEI 1250

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEIVING EMBASSY'S INITIAL MESSAGE, WE BEGAN LOOKING INTO COMPLEX AND CONFUSING HISTORY OF WASHINGTON INTER-AGENCY CONSIDERATION OF FAIRCHILD'S APPLICATIONS TO SELL AN/GLQ3 AND FAIRS SYSTEMS TO ROC. IT HAS TAKEN UNTIL NOW TO UNRAVEL AND COMPLETE STORY.

2. IT WAS CLEAR, HOWEVER, BY TIME FAIRCHILD'S WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE CALLED EA/ROC ON FEBRUARY 25, THAT THERE WAS, OR HAD BEEN, WASHINGTON OBJECTION TO THE SALE OF GLQ3 SYSTEM, EITHER COMMERCIALY OR ON A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT BASIS, AND THAT CONSIDERATION OF FAIRS SYSTEM WAS STILL PENDING AT BEST. ON THAT UNDERSTANDING, EA/ROC
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OFFICER URGED FAIRCHILD TO DEFER ANY PLANNED VISITS TO TAIWAN UNTIL SITUATION WAS CLARIFIED HERE, APPARENTLY WITH LITTLE EFFECT.

3. SITUATION NOW IS AS FOLLOWS: WITH REGARD TO GLQ3 SYSTEM -- FORMERLY APPROVED ONLY FOR GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT SALE TO THE ROC AND THEN DISAPPROVED FOR SALE TO THE ROC ON ANY BASIS -- IT IS BEING APPROVED FOR COMMERCIAL SALE BY FAIRCHILD TO THE ROC, WITH ALL

WASHINGTON AGENCIES CONCURRING. THIS NEW POSITION REVERSES PREVIOUS WASHINGTON DECISIONS AND DEPARTMENT'S (PM/MC) FEBRUARY 5 LETTER TO FAIRCHILD DISAPPROVING COMMERCIAL SALE OF EQUIPMENT.

4. AS FOR FAIRS SYSTEM, ONE WASHINGTON AGENCY RESERVED JUDGMENT ON FAIRCHILD'S APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL SALE TO THE ROC UNTIL IT COULD STUDY ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL LITERATURE. THAT HAS NOW TAKEN PLACE AND ON FEBRUARY 28 FAIRCHILD WAS GRANTED APPROVAL TO SELL FAIRS COMMERCIALY TO ROC. (FYI: KOREA HAS ALREADY PURCHASED THIS SYSTEM FROM FAIRCHILD. END FYI.)

5. EA/ROC, ALONG WITH OTHERS, WILL BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH FAIRCHILD VICE PRESIDENT CHRIS LAY WHEN HE COMES TO WASHINGTON. WE ASSUME FACT THAT BOTH SYSTEMS NOW APPROVED FOR COMMERCIAL SALE TO ROC WILL DISPEL ANY CONCERNS HE MAY HAVE.

KISSINGER

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